IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 18-page 11, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As the protective group R^2 selected from lower alkyl groups which may be optionally substituted, lower alkenyl groups which may be optionally substituted, a benzyl group which may be optionally substituted, and a silyl group which may be optionally substituted, those capable of protecting the hydroxy group from various reactions and being removable easily by hydrolysis, hydrogenolysis or reduction can be used. The term "lower" as used herein means linear or branched C_{1-6} hydrocarbon groups. Specific examples of the lower alkyl groups which may be optionally substituted include methyl, tert-butyl, methoxymethyl, and methoxyethoxy-methyl ~~and tetrahydropyranyl~~; those of the lower alkenyl groups which may be optionally substituted include allyl group; those of the benzyl group which may be optionally substituted include benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl, 2,6-dichlorobenzyl, and 2,6-dimethylbenzyl groups; and those of the silyl group which may be optionally substituted include tert-butyldimethylsilyl, tert-butyldiphenylsilyl and tri-isopropylsilyl groups.

Please insert the following paragraphs before the third line from the bottom of page 13 (and after the paragraph ending with the term "03/018564"):

As described by Example 8 of 03/018564, Compound (6) may be produced as described below:

Production of 1- [2- (7-trifluoromethylbenzoxazol-2-yl-thio)ethyl]piperazine ditrifluoroacetate

tert-Butyl 4- [2- (7-trifluoromethylbenzoxazol-2-yl-thio)ethyl] -1-piperazinecarb oxylate (37.92g, 87.9mmol) was dissolved in trifluoroacetic acid (200mL) under ice-cooling and stirred at the same temperature for 15 minutes. Ether was added to the reaction solution

under ice-cooling and the separated crystals were filtered, washed with ether and dried under a reduced pressure to obtain 47.46g (yield: 97%) of the target compound as light yellow powdery crystals.

Melting point: 155-156°C

IR (KBr) cm^{-1}: 3026, 2421, 1683, 1511, 1596

^{1}H-NMR (d_6-DMSO) δ: 2.75-2.90 (4H,m), 2.91-3.04 (2H,m), 3.05-3.22 (4H, m), 3.56 (2H, t, J = 6.8Hz), 7.54 (1H, t, J = 8.OHz), 7.67 (1H, d, J = 8. OHz), 7.96 (1H, d, J = 8.OHz), 8.70 (1H, br s).

Elementary analysis as $C_{18}H_{18}F_9N_3O_5S$

Calculated: C, 38.65; H, 3.24; N, 7.51

Found: C, 38.60; H, 3.25; N, 7.51.